

## **Perry County Coal Corp. (Teco) Donates Supplies to Letcher County and Leslie County ATCs**

**KY Tech - Letcher County Area Technology Center welding and industrial maintenance students and Leslie County ATC electrical technology and welding students became beneficiaries of brand new supplies when Perry County Coal Corp., a TECO subsidiary, made a donation to each of the schools.**

**OCTE Executive Director John Marks and Deputy Executive Director Michael Kindred presented a plaque commemorating the donation to Paul Jackson, operations director, and Tony Pennington, purchasing director, for Perry County Coal Corp.**



*Photo (l to r): Leslie Co. ATC Principal Dwight Lewis, Letcher Co. ATC Principal Barbara Ison, Pennington, Jackson, Marks, Finley Begley and Kindred.*

**Supply donations are put to good use by instructors who help students develop the technical skills necessary to become employed. Former Kentucky Tech Regional Director Finley Begley has knocked on the doors of businesses and industries such as Perry County Coal for over 50 years to request supplies for students. Many have benefited as a result of his efforts.**

*Photo: Paul Jackson (l) and Begley enjoy talking about how the donations will benefit students.*

*“In my opinion, Teco Coal is an important Kentucky Tech partner, and I have enjoyed working with them because they understand what our schools need to help students become successful,” said Begley.*



**Through TECO's generosity, students now have brand new hand tools, hard hats, welding helmets, cutting and safety glasses, welding wire, cable, lockout devices, switches, contactors, and relays – just to name a few of the supplies donated through Begley.**



**“TECO Coal is a good corporate citizen, and we believe in giving back to the community,” said Jackson. “The people that run TECO Coal live here, and we understand the importance of skilled employees.”**

***Photo: Marks (r) shakes the hand of Jackson.***

***“The benefits of being able to provide students with hands-on opportunities to develop and refine skills are priceless,” said Marks. “We appreciate the support of Perry County Coal. The supplies donated for our students will be put to good use in the classroom.”***



**“It’s a privilege to help these schools because they can supply us with people we can put to work,” said Pennington.**



***Photo: Barbara Ison (l) and Pennington double check supplies going to Letcher Co. ATC.***

***“When supplies are not available, students are limited,” said Ison. “This donation will make it possible for students to have additional time in the lab developing their skills.”***

**Students who complete their technical education and skills training in electrical, industrial maintenance technology and welding programs are needed by TECO Coal because they learn how to repair electrical equipment, install, adjust or maintain machinery and know how to weld, said Jackson.**

**High school students who have the desire and are capable of learning technical skills and can profit from these courses can enroll at a Kentucky Tech school, said Begley.**



*Photo: Dwight Lewis (r) oversees the loading of supplies for Leslie Co. ATC.*

*"With the investment in our programs and with our past history of students going to work, we feel this partnership with industry provides a positive outcome for everyone," Lewis said. "These supplies are invaluable for our students because of the opportunity the supplies afford each of them to become more skills proficient."*